



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

383 Hall of Administration / 500 West Temple Street / Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

MINUTES OF THE 663rd MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 663rd meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on June 16, 2005, in Room 140 at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those in attendance follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bertrum M. CeDillos, Chair
Clifton Albright, Vice Chair
Lee Kanon-Alpert
Nelson L. Atkins
Walter P. Coombs
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Thomas J. Jeffers
Janice Kamenir-Reznik
Carol Rose
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Neal S. Millard
Robbi J. Work

Bertrum M. CeDillos
Chair

Clifton W. Albright
Vice Chair

Lee Kanon Alpert
Nelson L. Atkins
Walter P. Coombs
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Thomas J. Jeffers
Neal S. Millard
Carol L. Rose
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
Robbi J. Work

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Lt. George Bush, LA Police Department
Mike Caprioli, LA Sheriff's Department – Court Services
Laura Green, Public Defender's Office
Larry Mason, District Attorney's Office
Danette Meyers, LA County Bar Association
Robert Pulone, LA City Attorney's Office
Honorable Dennis P. Zine, City of Los Angeles

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Bea Dieringer, LA District Attorney's Office
Michael Karsch, City of Los Angeles
Dr. Margaret Little, Superior Court
Honorable John H. Sandoz, Superior Court
Peggy Shuttleworth, CCJCC
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court

GUEST:

Diane Reagan, County Counsel

STAFF

Jim Corbett
Dedie Ward
Audra Galang

CALL TO ORDER

Chair CeDillos called the 663rd regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:36 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Michael Caprioli, LA County Sheriff's Department, was asked to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions of the Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Guests followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2005

On motion of Commissioner Coombs, seconded by Commissioner Jeffers, and unanimously carried, the Minutes for the meeting of May 19, 2005 were approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2005-2006

Jim Corbett, Staff, cited the procedures for the election process and noted the Ex-Officio Members who had voting privileges for today's elections.

Nominations were then opened from the floor for the Offices of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission. Commissioner Jeffers nominated Chair CeDillos to serve another term as Chair, and Clifton Albright to serve as Vice-Chair for another term. Nominations from the floor were then closed.

On motion of Commissioner Jeffers, seconded by Commissioner Rose, and unanimously carried, Bertrum CeDillos was re-elected as Chair and Clifton Albright was re-elected as Vice Chair of the Commission for 2005-2006.

GUEST SPEAKER – DIANE C. REAGAN – OVERVIEW OF COUNTY COUNSEL'S OFFICE

Chair CeDillos welcomed and introduced Ms. Diane C. Reagan, Principal Deputy, Office of the County Counsel, and provided information about Ms. Reagan's educational background, professional career, and mentioned some of the many awards Ms. Reagan has received for her achievements.

Ms. Reagan then gave an overview on the operation of the Office of the County Counsel, stating that the current Executive Officer is Raymond G. Fortner Jr., appointed by the Board of Supervisors in November of 2004. Mr. Fortner is the tenth County Counsel to serve since the inception of the office in 1913. The County Counsel advises and litigates civil matters in State and Federal Court involving County Departments and the MTA and is also involved with Ordinance drafting, Appellate services and other transaction services.

At this time, the Department is undergoing a major reorganization and operational restructuring within several of its divisions. Ms. Reagan has been reassigned to the Health Services Division which furnishes legal services and advises the Departments of Health Services, Public Social Services, Mental Health and County Hospitals. In addition, other client departments have recently been assigned to the Health Services Division as a result of the reorganization which are Animal Care and Control in which Ms. Reagan drafted the County's Dangerous Dog Ordinance, the Agricultural Commission and the Coroner's Office. Several new divisions have also emerged during the reorganization such as Litigation Cost Management, Property Services Division, and the Law Enforcement section.

During Ms. Reagan's 11 ½ year tenure with the County Counsel, she has directly represented 17 different County Departments, Commissions and Agencies and interfaced with many others which include the Board of Supervisors, Public Administrator, Auditor Controller, and Assessor. Ms. Reagan then gave an overview on the activities and types of cases a Deputy County Counsel would handle during the course of an average work week. Following a question and answer period, Chair CeDillos thanked Ms. Reagan for her informative presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Update on Police Committee

Lt. George Bush, Los Angeles Police Department, reported that the Committee is continuing to assist the District Attorney's Office in its efforts to reduce court related overtime, and is assessing the current process to determine the best way to achieve positive results. Two issues have also been identified that may require some assistance to resolve which are the practice of having witnesses and victims wait for long periods of time for trials to occur or cases to be called, and the early disposition program in the Criminal Courts Building.

Councilman Dennis Zine added that the City Council is also addressing concerns regarding court related overtime which has recently increased by 15%. The City is currently addressing the issue so that those dollars can be used elsewhere in the system.

Update on Status of Child Custody Exchange

Bea Dieringer, Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, reported that the Committee submitted a grant application for \$340,510 for a two-year pilot child exchange program in the Carson and Temple Sheriff Stations. The funding agency recently contacted Peggy Shuttleworth to inform her that the merits of the application did not score high enough to be considered for funding for 2 years, however if the application could be restructured for one year, it might have a better chance of receiving a grant.

Ms. Dieringer reported that the grant application was recently modified and resubmitted to the funding agency for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

Chair CeDillos announced and invited everyone to attend the grand opening for the West District, Airport Courthouse Child Waiting Room on Thursday, July 14th, at 2:00 p.m. in Division 143, 7th floor, 11701 South La Cienega Blvd., at 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

(The next meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission is scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2005)